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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hiroshi MIZUGUCHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3617**

Application Number: **10/780,065**

Examiner: **Edwin L. Swinehart**

Filed: **February 18, 2004**

Confirmation Number: **2237**

For: **OUTBOARD MOTOR STEERING SYSTEM**

Attorney Docket Number: **042093**

Customer Number: **38834**

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF PTO/SB/08

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 31, 2006

Sir:

Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on October 17, 2006. A copy of the IDS is attached hereto.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return a copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 that accompanies the IDS, marked to indicate that the references listed therein have been considered by the Office.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions concerning this Request.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP


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WFW/dlt



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)/(e)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 17, 2006

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. A copy of each non- U.S. document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before or concurrent with payment of the Issue Fee. A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

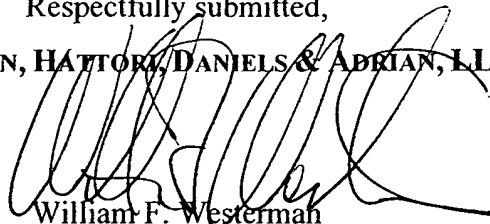
The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the foreign communication citing the documents is attached.

Application No. 10/780,065
Art Unit 3617

Information Disclosure Statement under 1.97(d)
Attorney Docket No. 042093

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit
Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



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Enclosures: PTO/SB/08
Foreign Communication
3 Documents
Check for \$180.00



Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	10/780,065
				Confirmation Number	2237
				Filing Date	February 18, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Hiroshi MIZUGUCHI et al.
				Art Unit	3617
				Examiner Name	Edwin L. Swinehart
				Attorney Docket Number	042093

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	1	JP	2002-022487		01-23-2002	TDK Corp.	Abstract
	2	JP	2000-121309		04-28-2000	Midori Sokki KK	Abstract
	3	JP	10-185621		07-14-1998	Sankyo Seiki Mfg. Co., Ltd.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
	4	Japanese Office Action No. 411920 dated 09-06-2006	No

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.